Privatisation of Central Schools

308. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that standards have gone down in Central Schools, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Government managed schools and people remember Central Schools when they find difficult to get a seat in public schools (private);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal to privatise all Central Schools or nationalise all private schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The performance of the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas does not reflect any decline in standards of these schools.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Development and expansion of technical education

†309. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need for promotion of development and expansion of technical education in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the private sector would also need to be encouraged for promoting this kind of education system;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the private sector has to have recognition from Government to run such education system, which take years together; and

(d) if not, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Private Sector is being encouraged for promotion of technical education. Almost two-third of the technical institutes are managedthrough the private initiatives.

(c) and (d) As per the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act. 1987, setting up of technical institutes including those in the private sector, need AICTE approval. The process of approval generally takes one year as per the schedule of approval process.

CAG's observations and recommendations for ICDS

310. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAG in an appraisal of the Integrated Child Development Scheme between 1992—99, has lamented that the scheme has done little in improving the health status of children as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 20th January, 2001;

(b) if so, the acts and figures, which attracted such observations from the CAG and the drawbacks pointed out by the CAG in implementation of the scheme; and

(c) the steps since taken to improve the conditions and implementation mechanism in the light of the CAG's recommendations and observations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Report is a performance appraisal of the impact of the scheme and the delivery service there under. It has commented on the objectives, implementation and impact process, shortfalls in the targets, discrepancies in the nutrition distribution, receipt of medicine kits, diversion of funds, identification and coverage of beneficiaries, health input delivery, training and monitoring among other things.

(c) Some of the major initiatives taken by the Department to increase the effectiveness and impact of the programme in the last two years include: (i) The freeze on expansion imposed in May, 1997